HAWKINS (J.E.) PAPERS
Mss. 982
Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections
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Louisiana State University Libraries
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

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SUMMARY

Size. 11 linear feet (4,464 items, 135 manuscript volumes)

Geographic locations. Evangeline, St. Landry, Orleans, Calcasieu, Avoyelles parishes, Louisiana; Arkansas; Kentucky

Inclusive dates. 1857-1929

Bulk dates. 1880-1900

Language. English


Restrictions on access. If microfilm is available, photocopies must be made from microfilm.

Related collections. None.

Copyright. Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.

Citation. J. E. Hawkins Papers, Mss. 982, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.

Stack locations. UU:309-315, J:8-9, OS:H
BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE

Josiah Edwin Hawkins was a physician, surgeon, and farm owner in Bayou Chicot, Evangeline Parish, Louisiana. Hawkins was originally from Talbot County, Georgia, received his medical education at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and first practiced medicine in Columbia City, Arkansas in the 1850s. In the late 1860s or early 1870s, he moved to Evangeline Parish and there he practiced medicine, opened a hospital, and operated a farm.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Professional, business, and personal papers document Hawkins' medical practice in Columbia City, Arkansas, and Evangeline Parish, Louisiana. Financial documents include papers pertaining to the purchase and sale of land, livestock, agricultural and building supplies, tax payments, and contracts with tenants, sharecroppers, and laborers (1890-1900). Subjects mentioned in correspondence include the medical education of his young assistants, Louisiana state and local politics, the migration of African Americans from Louisiana to Kansas, and public road construction.

Printed materials include copies of newspapers and periodicals, chiefly from New Orleans and St. Landry Parish (1882-1929); and catalogs and pamphlets relating to education, medicine, and pharmaceutical supplies (1878-1912). Plats and surveys show property bought and sold in Louisiana; maps include a geographical map of Central and South America (undated), a map of Louisiana by the Bureau of Immigration (undated), and a map of Turkey (1877).

Manuscript volumes include 33 medical day books recording patients' names, visits, fees, diagnoses, and treatments (1860-1898); 14 ledgers of medical accounts (1860-1892); 34 memorandum books pertaining to medical practice and farming expenses (1871-1905); 4 plantation diaries (1881-1901); 15 plantation record and day books (1872-1912); 16 time books related to plantation workers (1874-1900); 4 indexes to the books and ledgers; and 15 miscellaneous books including contracts with labor and tenants (1896), financial records and receipts, and a justice of the peace docket and record book.
COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

Early items in the collection include a letter from James G. Taliaferro to William Hawkins pertaining to the settlement of a land claim (1859), a letter from Professor L.A. Dugas, Medical College of Georgia, to J.E. Hawkins inviting Southern students, “subject to the taunts of vile abolitionists in Northern cities,” to return South and attend the college (1859), and a number of receipts for taxes (1868-1870) and bills for merchandise, furnishings, and credit for cotton (1868-1881). A letter from Jeffie J. Hawkins to his family relates the hardships encountered on his journey from Arkansas to Bayou Chicot and describes the country and people of the area (1872). Also included are contracts with sharecroppers and laborers (1874-1876), a letter pertaining to the estate of William Hawkins (1878), letters from patients concerning their ailments (1877-1882), and letters from the Superintendent of the Insane Asylum of Louisiana concerning admission of an applicant to the crowded hospital (1880). Two letters from Simmesport, La., mention “Kansas fever” and the migration of local African Americans to that state (1879).

J.H. Parker, a student attending the Kentucky School of Medicine, writes to Drs. W.E. Hawkins and J.E. Hawkins describing faculty, classes, incidents at school, and the Board of Health in Louisville (1883). A letter from J.E. Clark, Lavaca County, Tex., describes his income and medical practices (1883), and a letter from W.E. Hawkins discusses tests for eyeglasses (1883). Other letters come from various merchants (1883), as well as medical students, patients, and other doctors discussing cases (1883-1896). A broadsheet from the office of the Board of Health, State of Louisiana, pertains to patients with diphtheria, scarlet fever, and smallpox (1884). Letters from J.W. Crawford, Cheneyville, La., mentions a group of African Americans operating near Evergreen stealing cattle (1884). A letter from Dr. Charles Miles mentions a serious type of fever in St. Landry Parish (1886), Dr. S.B. Singleton, Welsh City in Calcasieu Parish, writes describing the city and his practice (1888), and a letter from Henry Garland discusses the political situation in the state (1887). Also included are contracts with tenants and sharecroppers (1888-1899), bills of lading (1895-1896), letters from patients stating their inability to pay bills (1888), assessment lists of Hawkins’ taxable property, St. Landry Parish (1889), letters from C.J. Thompson relating to the economic possibilities of St. Landry Parish (1892), and a letter from L.N. Brunswig in New Orleans mentioning a political disturbance in St. Landry Parish (1896).

Later items include a homestead application of Caroline Pleasants with endorsement of all rights to Hawkins (1898-1899), receipts for costs incurred in the suit of Robert Taylor v. Patsy Slack (1900-1902), contracts with tenants and sharecroppers (1900-1905), letters discussing land for sale (1903-1905), and memoranda of agreement pertaining to Hawkins rental of land on Bayou Cocodrie for banking timber to H.F. Cady Lumber Company (1903-1905). Other letters concern the purchase, sale, and litigation related to timber and timber lands in St. Landry Parish (1906-1907). Also included is a certificate of the appointment of Dr. Hawkins as Special Deputy United States Marshall (1906-1907), receipts for payment of medical bills (1909-1912), contracts with a household servant (1909-1912), and letters concerning swamp land (1908) and land for sale near Lake Charles (1909-1912).
Undated items include descriptions of land near Bayou Chicot and in St. Landry Parish, mortgage deeds, a veterinary circular, letters relating to Hawkins’ delinquent taxes, patient letters, and handbills for drugs and medical supplies.

Other items include sheet music of *L’Angelus*, By C. Gounad, Boston: Oliver Ditson and Co. (undated), a photograph of the Mandell Company Wholesale Dry Goods (undated), and a number of business and calling cards (undated). Also found in the collection are a number of maps, plats, and land surveys. See container list for details.

**Printed items**

Printed items include scattered issues of newspapers and newspaper clippings, mostly from New Orleans and St. Landry Parish (1882-1929).

*The Mascot*, New Orleans, June 3, 1882  
*St. Landry Democrat*, Opelousas, September 29, 1888  
*The Question of the Hour*, New Orleans, August 28, 1890  
*The Play*, New Orleans, 1890  
*The New Idea*, Detroit, 1890  
*The Agents Guide*, New York, January, 1897  
*The People’s Tribune*, Opelousas, April 3, 1897  
*The Lecompte Messenger*, Lecompte, 1897  
*The Opelousas Courier*, February 20, 1904  
*The St. Landry Clarion*, Opelousas, April 22, April 29, 1905  
*The Washington Herald*, Washington, October 26, 1912  
*Needlecraft*, New York, 1912  
*Weekly Market Bulletin*, Baton Rouge, 1929

Pamphlets and similar materials pertain principally to medicine and medical supplies, with some items concerning agriculture and other matters (ca. 1896-1897).

*Annual Report of Commissioner of Agriculture*, 1878  
*List of Medical, Surgical, and Scientific Books and Periodicals*, 1878  
*Jayne’s Medical Almanac*, 1882  
*The Southern Almanac*, 1882  
*Across the Continent*, 1883  
*The Diamond Almanac*, 1888  
*Speech of Honorable Samuel M. Robertson (House of Representatives)*, 1890 Two Copies  
*“Medical Profession,”* 1890  
*Eight copies Afro-American Almanac*, 1897  
*Speech of Honorable Henry M. Teller (United States Senator)*, 1896  
*Animal Therapy by Thomas Osmond Summers*, 1896  
*Charles Marchand’s Medical Preparations*, 1897  
*Forage or Hay Crops*, 1907  
*Orchard Report of the Baton Rouge Station of Agricultural Experiment Station of the Louisiana State University and A&M College*, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 1908  
*Twenty-First Annual Report of the Agricultural Experiment Stations of the Louisiana State University and A&M College for 1908*, 1909  
*Master Masonic Degree*, undated
Manuscript Volumes
A large portion of the collection consists of manuscript volumes. Account books begin in 1857 with Dr. Hawkins’ medical practice in Arkansas and continue in Louisiana after 1870, with some gaps until 1886. Thirty-three daybooks contain a record of office and home visits, giving the names of the patients, fees for services and medicine, and frequently mentioning the nature of the illness and the treatment prescribed. 14 ledgers contain the manner of settlement, either in money or produce, of his accounts.

The material relating to farming begins in 1871 and continues until 1900. These include 34 memorandum books, 19 record books, and 16 time books, pertaining to farming operations and recording cattle sales and purchases; cotton picking, hauling and personal and public ginning; and labor contracts and work assignments; and accounts with tenants; sharecroppers and laborers for supplies.

Also included is a Justice of the Peace Case Docket and Record Book noting civil actions by public road overseers against persons for failure to work the roads in their districts (1876-1879).
List of volumes:
2. Check Book. 1905
5. Daybook – Office. Arkansas. 1863-1864
11. Daybook – Field. Louisiana. September – October 1871
15. Daybook – Office. Louisiana. September 1873 – October 1874
18. Daybook – Field. Louisiana. October – December 1875
25. Daybook – Office. Louisiana. May 1880 – August 1881
27. Daybook – Field. Louisiana. March – May 1882
29. Daybook – Field. Louisiana. February – April 1883
30. Daybook – Office. Louisiana. February 1884 – September 1884
32. Daybook – Office. Louisiana. September 1884 – August 1885
33. Daybook – Office. Louisiana. August 1885 – April 1886
34. Daybook – Field. Louisiana. Undated
36. Draft Book. 1892-1896
37. Draft Book. 1895-1897
38. Draft Book. 1903-1904
39. Draft Book. 1903-1904
40. Index. Undated.
41. Index. Undated.
42. Index. Undated.
43. Index. Undated.
44. Ledger. 1860-1865
45. Ledger. 1865-1870
46. Ledger. April 1871 - July 1872
47. Ledger. February – December 1872
49. Ledger. January 1872 – December 1873
50. Ledger. 1872 – 1877
51. Ledger. 1872 – 1886
52. Ledger. 1873
53. Ledger. 1873-1874
54. Ledger. 1873 – 1876
55. Ledger. 1874 – 1876
56. Ledger. 1880
57. Ledger. 1892
58. Memorandum Book. 1860
60. Memorandum Book. November 1872
62. Memorandum Book. November 1876 – August 1878
63. Memorandum Book. August 1881 – September 1881
64. Memorandum Book. September 1881
65. Memorandum Book. June 1882
66. Memorandum Book. 1882
67. Memorandum Book. 1883
68. Memorandum Book. 1884
69. Memorandum Book. 1885
70. Memorandum Book. 1888
71. Memorandum Book. 1893-1894
72. Memorandum Book. 1894
73. Memorandum Book. 1896
74. Memorandum Book. 1896-1897
75. Memorandum Book. 1898
76. Memorandum Book. 1904-1905
77. Memorandum Book. 1905
80. Memorandum Book. Undated
81. Memorandum Book. Undated
82. Memorandum Book. Undated
83. Memorandum Book. Undated
84. Memorandum Book. Undated
85. Memorandum Book. Undated
86. Memorandum Book. Undated
87. Memorandum Book. Undated
88. Memorandum Book. Undated
89. Memorandum Book. Undated
90. Memorandum Book. Undated
91. Memorandum Book. Undated
92. Miscellaneous Book. Index of Accounts. 1871-1878
93. Miscellaneous Book. Justice of the Peace Case Docket & Record Book. 1876-1879
94. Miscellaneous Book. Index of Accounts. 1881-1888
95. Miscellaneous Book. Index of Accounts. 1882
96. Miscellaneous Book. Prescription Book. 1882-1883
97. Miscellaneous Book. Index of Accounts. 1887
98. Plantation Daybook. 1878-1877
99. Plantation Daybook. 1877
100. Plantation Daybook. 1877-1878
102. Plantation Daybook. Johnnie Haas. 1879-1880
103. Plantation Daybook. 1892-1894
104. Plantation Daybook. 1895
105. Plantation Diary. 1895
106. Plantation Diary. 1895
107. Plantation Record Book. 1895
108. Plantation Daybook. 1895-1896
109. Plantation Record Book. 1896
110. Plantation Daybook. 1897
111. Plantation Daybook. 1897
112. Plantation Daybook. 1897-1898
113. Plantation Diary. 1898-1899
114. Plantation Diary. 1900-1901
115. Plantation Record Book. 1911-1912
116. Plantation Record Book. Undated
117. Receipt Book. 1893-1896
118. Receipt Book. Undated
119. Timebook. 1874
120. Timebook. 1876
121. Timebook. 1876
122. Timebook. 1876
123. Timebook. 1877
124. Timebook. 1879
125. Timebook. 1893
126. Timebook. 1894
127. Timebook. 1895
128. Timebook. 1896
129. Timebook. 1897
130. Timebook. 1899
131. Timebook. 1899
132. Timebook. 1899
133. Timebook. 1900
134. Timebook. 1901
INDEX TERMS

African Americans--Migrations--Kansas.
Agriculture--Louisiana--Evangeline Parish.
Evangeline Parish (La.)
Farmers--United States.
Hawkins, J. E. (Josiah Edwin)
Maps.
Medical education--United States.
Medicine--Louisiana.
Newspapers.
Pamphlets.
Photographic prints.
Physicians--Arkansas.
Physicians--Louisiana.
Plats (maps)
Saint Landry Parish (La.)
Sheet music.
### CONTAINER LIST

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<td>1859-1883</td>
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<td>54-60</td>
<td>1907-1912, undated</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>61-69</td>
<td>Bills, land records, notes, fragments of letters, calling cards, business cards, crochet work (undated)</td>
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<td>70-77</td>
<td>Printed pamphlets, catalogs (1868-1912, undated); photograph of Mandell Company (undated); <em>The New Idea</em> (Detroit, 1890)</td>
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<td>Sheet music of <em>L’Angelus</em> (undated)</td>
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<td>T 3 S. R. 1 E. South Western District, Louisiana (April 29, 1887)</td>
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<td>T 1 N. R. W. South Western District, Louisiana (August 3, 1839)</td>
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<td>Map of township Number 2 South Range Number 1 West by John Cook (undated)</td>
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<td>T 2 S. R. 1 W. South Western District, Louisiana (February 11, 1878)</td>
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<td>Plat of Survey of a Portion of the Estate of Mrs. A.E. Leigh (August 1891)</td>
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<td>Certificate in Latin to Carl George Nielsen (1919)</td>
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<td>Monteith’s Physical and Intermediate Geography Map of Central and Southern America (undated)</td>
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<td>Lone Pine School Building, Blueprints. Duncan and Barron Architects. Alexandria, Louisiana (undated)</td>
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<td>Maps of Louisiana, Compliments of South Western Louisiana Land Company, Crowley, Louisiana (undated)</td>
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<td>Map of Turkey showing the Seat of War (1877)</td>
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<td>Map of State of Louisiana issued by the Bureau of Immigration (undated)</td>
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| OS:H           | 1   | 4       | Newspapers (1888-1912)  
                 |     |         | *St. Landry Democrat* (1888); *People’s Tribune* (1897); *The Lecompte Messenger* (1897); *The Opelousas Courier* (1904); *The St. Landry Clarion* (1905); *The Washington Herald* (1912) |
| OS:H           | 2   | 1-6     | Oversize items removed from collection: contracts, account sheets, bills, medical broadsides, T 3 S. R. 1 E. South Western District, Louisiana (1857-1858); Township 4 S and 1 E Ste District, Louisiana; Township One South Range One West District S.A.; Newspapers: *The Mascot* (1882); *The Question of the Hour* (1890); *The Agents Guide* (1897); *Needlecraft* (1912) |
| OS:H           | --  | 1       | Plan L’Exposition de Paris (1878) |